

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A vessel having a motor-driven propeller extending beyond the hull thereof, as well as a cavity in said hull guiding the water flow to and from said propeller, wherein an area defined by a cross-section of said cavity is substantially constant in a direction perpendicular to the longitudinal axis over the length of said cavity upstream of said propeller, wherein the width of said cavity increases upstream from said propeller.

2. (canceled)

3. (previously presented) The vessel as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the boundary of the cross-sectional area of said cavity comprises a line drawn between opposing vessel hull/cavity transition points.